

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (New): An image output apparatus for outputting an image using image data indicative of the image and associated photographing information set at a generation of the image data, wherein

the photographing information includes light metering mode information on a light metering mode, wherein

the image output apparatus comprising:

a picture quality adjusting unit that performs a picture quality adjustment on the image, the picture quality adjustment being for which a degree of an adjustment of lightness and contrast of whole image is reduced based on the photographing information if the photographing information indicates that the light metering mode measures part of the image; and

an outputting unit that outputs an image adjusted by the picture quality adjusting unit.

Claim 15 (New): The image output apparatus in accordance with claim 14, wherein

the picture quality adjusting unit is configured to perform the picture quality adjustment including the lightness and contrast adjustment with a less degree of adjustment in response to the light metering mode information indicating that the light metering mode measures part of the image than a degree of adjustment in response to the light metering mode information other than the information indicating that the light metering mode measures part of the image.

Claim 16 (New): The image output apparatus in accordance with claim 14, wherein

the picture quality adjusting unit is configured to perform the picture quality adjustment without the lightness and contrast adjustment if the photographing information indicates that the light metering mode measures part of the image.

Claim 17 (New): The image output apparatus in accordance with claim 14, wherein
the light metering mode information represents one of a plurality of metering
methods including averaged metering, center-weighted metering, spot metering, multi-spot
metering, divisional light metering, and partial light metering, and

the information indicating that the light metering mode measures part of the image is
information indicating spot metering, multi-spot metering, divisional light metering, and
partial light metering.

Claim 18 (New): The image output apparatus in accordance with claim 17, wherein
the picture quality adjusting unit is configured to provide a user interface for allowing
a user to adjust the degree of lightness and contrast adjustment if the light metering mode
information indicates the center-weighted metering.

Claim 19 (New): An image output method of outputting an image using image data
indicative of the image and associated photographing information set at a generation of the
image data, wherein

the photographing information includes light metering mode information on a light
metering mode, wherein

the image output method comprising:

performing a picture quality adjustment on the image, the picture quality
adjustment being for which a degree of an adjustment of lightness and contrast of whole
image is reduced based on the photographing information if the photographing information
indicates that the light metering mode measures part of the image; and

outputting an image adjusted by the picture quality adjusting unit.

Claim 20 (New): A computer program product for causing a computer to output an image using image data indicative of the image and associated photographing information set at a generation of the image data, wherein

the photographing information includes light metering mode information on a light metering mode, wherein

the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium; and

a computer program stored on the computer readable medium, wherein

the computer program causing the computer to perform functions of:

performing a picture quality adjustment on the image, the picture quality adjustment being for which a degree of an adjustment of lightness and contrast of whole image is reduced based on the photographing information if the photographing information indicates that the light metering mode measures part of the image; and
outputting an image adjusted by the picture quality adjusting unit.